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Memoirs of the Life of Joseph Alleine, author of "An Alarm to the Unconverted." By his Widow, Mrs. Theodosia Alleine. Philadelphia.

Biography of the Signers to the Declaration of Independence. Vols. VII. VIII. IX. Philadelphia. R. W. Pomeroy. 8vo.

The Life of Philip, the Indian Chief. Salem. Whipple & Lawrence.

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HISTORY.

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Letters and Memoirs relating to the War of American Independence, and the Capture of the German Troops at Saratoga. By Madame de Riedesel. Translated from the Original German. New York. G. & C. Carvill. 12mo.

This entertaining little volume we intended to examine more at large, than our limits have permitted for the present number. We shall recur to it hereafter. As a spirited description of some of the most important scenes of our revolutionary war, written by a person who narrates what came under her own observation, and in a style at once animated and perspicuous. it has more than common claims to the notice of American readers. Madame de Riedesel was the wife of General Riedesel, who commanded the Brunswick troops in the service of the British during the Revolution. She joined her husband in Canada the year after the commencement of the war, and she continued with him, sharing his various fortunes during the remainder of the contest. Her account of the events at Saratoga are touching, and given with apparent fidelity. While her husband was a prisoner she resided in Cambridge, and also in Charlottesville, Virginia. She was next with the British army in New York, and afterwards in Canada. The whole term of her residence in this country was about seven years.

The volume consists of a correspondence with her husband before she arrived, and a series of letters to her mother, written from America. It also contains a short memoir from the pen of General Riedesel on the surrender at Saratoga. The whole was originally written in German. and is now for the first time translated, although it has been for several years before the European public. A few extracts only were translated for Wilkinson's Memoirs. A well written preface by the translator is prefixed to the present volume, and in an Appendix are contained several letters, that passed between Washington, Riedesel, and Gates. The work is highly creditable to the translator, in regard both to the style in which he has executed his task, and to his own additions.

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ing condition of all parts of the United States is such, that important changes are perpetually occurring, and these must be kept in view and noted by the author, who would give anything like completeness to a work of this description. By pursuing this course Mr Sherwood will doubtless much enlarge and improve a future edition.

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In an Appendix Mr Sherwood gives a list of what he calls *provincialisms* common in Georgia. The following are specimens. *Tote*, for carry, bear;—*raised*, for brought up, educated;—*smart chance*, for good deal, large company, great numbers;—*disremember*, for forget;—*done said it*, for has said it;—*done did it*, for has done it; *fauch*, for fetch;—*onct*, for once;—*scrouge*, for crowd;—*tight scrouging*, for difficult;—*get shut of*, for get rid of;—*mout*, for might;—*pertend up*, for better, more cheerful;—*wrench*, for rise.

The author also subjoins a few instances of erroneous pronunciation; such as, *presbattery*, for presbytery;—*sarment*, for sermon;—*starrs*, for stairs;—*bar*, for bear;—*stare*, for star. And he might have added, *cheer*, for chair;—*bare*, for beer;—*far*, for fair;—and *fair*, for fear. We believe no one south of the Roanoke, who would avoid the charge of singularity, would venture to call Cape *Fear*, anything else than Cape *Fair*.

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The following extract from the advertisement prefixed to this edition, will show what improvements it has received from the editor, dictated by his experience in the successful use of the former editions.

'Every part of the work has been carefully and minutely examined, and such parts as were susceptible of melioration have been assiduously amended.

'We will not detail the particulars in which this edition is superior to the preceding, as it would be a tedious enumeration of corrections and improvements; but Instructors and Students will perceive it in almost every page; especially in the rules and illustrations regarding the use of the Future and Conditional tenses; in the degree of perfection to which the Alphabetical List of the Irregular Verbs has been brought; in the new lights introduced upon the right use of the Verbs *Habér* and *Tenér*, *Ser* and *Estár*, and other verbs occasionally used as Auxiliaries; in short, upon every other point which is singular and peculiar to the Castilian tongue.

'For the relief of those who may learn by this Methodical and Practical System, we have thought proper to mark with an acute accent the vowel of every word in the Grammar on which the stress in pronouncing is laid; so that, after a few lessons, no uncertainty can remain respecting this important subject.'

WORKS IN PRESS.

E. & H. CLARK have in press, **ELOQUENCE OF THE UNITED STATES.** Compiled by E. B. WILLISTON.

It will be composed of specimens of Deliberative, Forensic, and Popular Eloquence, and contain the most celebrated Speeches, that have been delivered in Congress since its first organization, so selected and arranged as to afford a view of the most important subjects that have been deliberated upon in that body; and also a selection from the Speeches delivered in the several State Conventions, on the expediency of adopting the Federal Constitution.

HILLIARD & BROWN, Cambridge, Massachusetts, have in press, **The LIFE of JOHN LEDYARD, the AMERICAN TRAVELLER; comprising SELECTIONS from his JOURNALS and CORRESPONDENCE.**
By JARED SPARKS.

A few particulars in the singular character of Ledyard are well known, and have been often cited as examples of extraordinary energy and decision of mind, and as evidences of uncommon love of adventure and ardor of pursuit. But no general account of his life has been written, nor indeed anything more than a very brief and imperfect sketch, which was drawn up in England by the secretary of the African Association. This was done a short time after his death, in the year 1790, as a tribute to his memory for having sacrificed his life in promoting the interests of that society. But the writer had scanty materials, and knew hardly anything of Ledyard's history, except during the three last years

of his life. The notices contained in Biographical Dictionaries, both in this country and England, are copied from this memoir, and are equally imperfect.

It is understood, that Mr Sparks has obtained from different branches of Ledyard's family, and from other sources, his manuscript journals, and many of his original letters, which afford materials for a more full and authentic biography. From these papers the volume now promised to the public has been prepared. The incidents of his life are extremely various, and many of them excite a strong interest by the enthusiasm, perseverance, and uncommon vigor of mind, which they indicate. He was born in Connecticut, and educated first at Hartford, and then at Dartmouth College, with a view of becoming qualified as a missionary among the Indians. He travelled into the country of the Six Nations, and afterward constructed a canoe with his own hands on the banks of the Connecticut River at Hanover, in which he descended alone to Hartford. The pursuits of a missionary, and the study of theology, not proving congenial to his temper, he embarked on a voyage to the Mediterranean and the West Indies. After returning home, he visited England, joined the British navy, obtained a post in Cook's last expedition, with which he continued more than four years, till it arrived again in England. He was in the skirmish in which Cook lost his life, at the Sandwich islands, and was near the great navigator when he fell. At the close of the American war he came back to this country, having been absent eight years, and was the first to propose a voyage to the Northwest coast. In concert with Robert Morris, he planned such a voyage, but after a year spent in an unsuccessful attempt to procure a vessel and fit it out, the project failed. With letters from Mr Morris and other gentlemen he hastened to Europe, intending there to make an effort to accomplish his wish. For this purpose he visited Spain and France, and more than two years passed away in negotiations with mercantile companies and individuals, but without success. He was intimate with Jefferson (at that time our minister in Paris), with Lafayette, and with Paul Jones, who encouraged and aided him.

After encountering numerous difficulties, and not succeeding in his project of a voyage to the Northwest coast, he formed the design of going by land from Paris to Bering's Straits, thence crossing to the American continent, and proceeding homeward over the Rocky Mountains, with a determination to explore those unknown regions. Through the intercession of the Russian minister and Baron Grimm, permission was granted by the empress of Russia for him to pass through her dominions. In London he was patronized by Sir Joseph Banks and other gentlemen of eminence. He went over to Hamburg, thence to Copenhagen, Stockholm, and around the Gulf of Bothnia in the midst of winter to St Petersburg. He arrived there when the empress was on her famous tour to the Crimea, but by the aid of Count Segur and Professor Pallas he obtained a passport from the proper minister and set off for Siberia. It was so late in the season before he reached the borders of Kamtschatka, that the governor of Yakutsk would not suffer him to proceed further till the opening of spring. Meantime the empress became suspicious of his designs, and sent two Russian soldiers after him, who brought him back in the winter to the confines of Poland, a distance of more than six thousand miles, where they left him in poverty and wretchedness. He found his way to London, and was again kindly received by Sir Joseph Banks and his other friends. The Association for Promoting Travels in Africa was just at that time instituted. Being defeated in all his attempts to explore his own country, Ledyard eagerly grasped at the proposal to engage under the auspices of this society. He spent a few days in Paris, and then proceeded to Marsailles, whence he sailed for Alexandria in Egypt. At Grand Cairo he had passed several weeks in gaining an acquaintance with the language and habits of the people, who travelled in the caravans, and had made an agreement to accompany one of these to the interior, when he was suddenly taken ill, and died in January, 1790, being the first victim in the cause of African discovery, to which so many have since become martyrs.

His *Siberian Journal* has been preserved entire, and several letters written from Russia to Mr Jefferson and other persons. His celebrated eulogy on women, so often repeated, and so beautifully versified by Mrs Barbauld, was written at Yatkutsk in Siberia. This journal, also, contains many curious remarks on the character and customs of the Tartars, as compared with the American Indians and the South Sea Islanders, whom he had before seen in various parts of the globe. His journals and letters while he was in France and Spain are hardly less curious, containing observations on men and things often original and always striking. His letters from Egypt to Mr Jefferson and the Secretary of the African Association are equally characteristic. His journal of Cook's voyage, though not a complete narrative, abounds in lively descriptions and pertinent remarks, and his account of Cook's death is drawn up with more vivacity and apparent truth, than any other that has been published. It is believed that the papers, taken together, are worthy of the effort that has been made to rescue them from oblivion, and that the delineation they will afford of the character of their author will not be unacceptable to such readers, as love to contemplate the workings of an ardent mind, engaged in noble pursuits, and encountering with fortitude the obstacles incident to great and hazardous enterprises.

WORKS PROPOSED FOR PUBLICATION.

SIMEON BUTLER, of Northampton, proposes to publish, *A TREATISE ON GYMNASTICS*, taken chiefly from the German of F. L. JAHN.

The work will be prepared for the press by Dr CHARLES BECK, of Northampton. As he was formerly a pupil of the author, there is a sufficient guaranty, that the translation will be executed with fidelity, and that the additions which will be made, will be in the spirit and tone of the original treatise.

GEORGE M. STROUD, of Philadelphia, is preparing for publication a work to be entitled, *A SKETCH OF THE LAWS, WHICH RELATE TO SLAVERY IN THE SEVERAL STATES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA*; with an APPENDIX containing such Laws of the Federal Government, as are connected with the subject of Slavery.

Such a work will be valuable. If it could be preceded by an Introduction, giving a brief historical outline of the laws and usages respecting slavery from the first settling of the colonies till the revolution, its utility would be enhanced.

PROFESSOR CLEAVELAND is now engaged in preparing another edition of his *MINERALOGY* for the press. It will be considerably enlarged, embracing an account of all the discoveries in this branch of Science to the time of its publication, as far as may be practicable.

AN INDEX TO THE FIRST TWENTYFIVE VOLUMES OF THE *NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW*, is now in preparation, and will shortly be put to Press. The present number of the Work closes the twentyfifth volume, and the Index will come down to the end of the year 1827. It will be comprised in an octavo volume, of about the same size as the other volumes of the work, and so printed that it may be bound uniformly with the set. As it will be an Index of all the chief particulars in the work from the beginning, so arranged as to afford an immediate reference, it will be of the greatest utility to such persons as possess an entire set, or any considerable number of volumes.